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HOUSE BILL 242
By Patton

AN ACT to name the new National Guard Armory in Johnson City in honor of Colonel Clarence W. Taylor.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the state of Tennessee should honor those of its citizens who through their innate abilities and drive have risen to command positions in the military, and have worked diligently to advance the prestige and readiness of our state's military forces; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Clarence W. Taylor was one such talented military officer who rose to prominence as the original commander of the 130th Tank Battalion of the 30th Infantry (Old Hickory) Division and also as commander of the 176th Tank Battalion of the 30th Armored (Volunteer) Division; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Taylor was the prime leader of a multi-year drive to obtain a National Guard unit for Johnson City; he spent many years of hard work and extensive travel to secure a National Guard Armory in Johnson City, which the Guard occupied in December of 1955; and

WHEREAS, there is widespread sentiment among members, former members and retirees of the National Guard units in Johnson City that the city's new armory be named in honor of Colonel Taylor; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County by resolution of September 25, 2000, supports the naming of the new National Guard Armory in Johnson City in honor of Colonel Taylor; and

WHEREAS, there is no person who has devoted more time and energy in obtaining a National Guard presence in Johnson City than Colonel Taylor; and

WHEREAS, an officer as esteemed and highly respected by his peers and by the citizens of Johnson City, Washington County and the state of Tennessee is worthy of a special honor; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The new National Guard Armory in Johnson City, Washington County, is hereby designated the "Colonel Clarence W. Taylor Armory" as a lasting tribute to an exemplary officer and outstanding citizen of Tennessee.

SECTION 2. The Department of Military is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such edifice as the "Colonel Clarence W. Taylor Armory".

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.